

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A bread maker, comprising:

a main body having a baking space;

kneading drums located at an upper part and a lower part in the baking space, the kneading drums holding opposite ends of a mixing bag;

a movable tray member having a plurality of combining projections at opposite side walls thereof;

a fixed tray member positioned opposite the movable tray member to form a slit through which the mixing bag passes;

tray holders coupled to each end of the fixed tray member and the movable tray member, respectively, the tray holders fixedly supporting the fixed tray member, and having a plurality of guide grooves accommodating the combining projections to rotatably support the movable tray member; and

anchoring prominences on the guide grooves adjacent to the fixed tray member, preventing the combining projections from breaking away from the guide grooves when the movable tray member rotates.

2. The bread maker according to claim 1, further comprising guide members located at opposite side walls in the baking space, wherein the tray holders are slidably coupled to the guide members.

3. The bread maker according to claim 1, wherein each anchoring prominence is located on an upper opening of the guide grooves.

4. The bread maker according to claim 2, wherein each anchoring prominence is located on an upper opening of the guide grooves.

5. The bread maker according to claim 1, further comprising a control panel in a front side of the main body to allow a user to control the bread maker.

6. The bread maker according to claim 1, further comprising a heater in the baking space to bake the bread.

7. The bread maker according to claim 1, wherein the fixed tray member, the movable tray member, the tray holders, and the anchoring prominences form a baking tray assembly located between the kneading drums, the baking tray assembly holding kneaded dough for baking and being removable from the baking space.

8. The bread maker according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of fixing projections at opposite side walls of the fixed tray member and a plurality of fixed projection accommodating grooves on an end of each tray holder adjacent to the fixed tray member, the fixed projection accommodating grooves receiving the fixing projections to mount the fixed tray member to the tray holders.

9. The bread maker according to claim 1, wherein the guide grooves cave downwardly from a surface thereof to movably accommodate the combining projections of the movable tray member.

10. The bread maker according to claim 1, wherein the movable tray member faces the fixed tray member to form a rectangular baking tray container for holding and baking the bread.

11. The bread maker according to claim 1, wherein the slit is formed along a contact area between the fixed tray member and the movable tray member.

12. The bread maker according to claim 1, wherein the kneading drums are parallel to one another and include an upper kneading drum and a lower kneading drum, the upper kneading drum receiving and winding an upper end of the mixing bag and the lower kneading drum receiving and winding a lower end of the mixing bag, the upper kneading drum and the lower kneading drum rotating reciprocally to respectively wind the upper end and the lower end of the mixing bag.

13. The bread maker according to claim 12, further comprising kneading support members between the upper kneading drum and the lower kneading drum to prevent kneading ingredients in the mixing bag from moving out and toward the upper kneading drum.

14. The bread maker according to claim 13, wherein the lower end of the mixing bag is wound on the lower kneading drum through the kneading support members and the slit, and ingredients for dough contained in the mixing bag are kneaded between the kneading support members and the fixed tray member and the movable tray member.

15. The bread maker according to claim 14, wherein after the ingredients in the mixing bag have been kneaded, the mixing bag is detached from the upper kneading drum while the lower kneading drum continues rotating and winding the mixing bag, with the mixing bag passing through the slit to empty the kneaded ingredients from the mixing bag into a container formed by the fixed tray member and the movable tray member.

16. The bread maker according to claim 13, wherein when the mixing bag reciprocates upwardly and downwardly through the slit while the ingredients are kneaded, the movable tray member rotates away from and towards the fixed tray member as the mixing bag moves upwardly and downwardly, respectively, the rotation of the movable tray member away from the fixed tray member being stopped when the combining projections contact the anchoring prominences of the tray holders to limit an angle of rotation of the movable tray member, and the movable tray member rotating towards the fixed tray member to return to an initial position as the mixing bag reciprocates downwardly through the slit, the limited angle of rotation reducing noise generated when the movable tray member contacts the fixed tray member.

17. A baking tray assembly for a bread maker, comprising:
tray holders having a plurality of guide grooves on a first end of each tray holder;
a fixed tray having an open side and being fixedly attached to a second end of each tray holder;

a movable tray having another open side and a plurality of projections on opposite side walls thereof, the guide grooves of the tray holders rotatably accommodating the projections of the movable tray, with the movable tray adjacent to the fixed tray and the open sides of the movable tray and the fixed tray facing one another to form a container; and

anchors projecting into upper openings of the guide grooves adjacent to the fixed tray to prevent the projections from exiting the guide grooves as the movable tray rotates.

18. The baking tray assembly according to claim 17, further comprising a plurality of fixing projections at opposite side walls of the fixed tray and a plurality of fixed grooves on an end of each tray holder adjacent to the fixed tray, the fixed grooves receiving the fixing projections to mount the fixed tray to the tray holders.

19. The baking tray assembly according to claim 17, wherein the guide grooves cave downwardly from a surface thereof to movably accommodate the projections of the movable tray member.

20. The baking tray assembly according to claim 17, wherein a slit is formed along a contact area between the fixed tray and the movable tray.

21. The baking tray assembly according to claim 20, wherein a mixing bag containing ingredients for the bread reciprocates upwardly and downwardly through the slit while the ingredients are kneaded, with the movable tray member rotating away from and towards the fixed tray member as the mixing bag moves upwardly and downwardly, respectively, the rotation of the movable tray away from the fixed tray member being stopped when the projections contact the anchors of the tray holders to limit an angle of rotation of the movable tray, and the movable tray rotating towards the fixed tray member to return to an initial position as the mixing bag reciprocates downwardly through the slit, the limited angle of rotation reducing noise generated when the movable tray member contacts the fixed tray member.

22. A baking tray assembly for a bread maker, comprising:
means for fixedly attaching each end of a fixed tray to a first side of tray holders;
means for rotatably attaching each end of a movable tray to a second side of the tray holders; and
means for limiting a rotation angle of the movable tray as the movable tray rotates to reduce noise generated as the movable tray returns to an initial position and contacts the fixed tray.